

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:297

ANSWERED ON:02.03.2005

INCREASE IN CARGO CAPACITY

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has increased the cargo capacity to clear the shipments of ready made garments and textiles likely to be increased after January 1, 2005;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has also received representations from various traders in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government to make necessary arrangements in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (d): The shipment of readymade garments and textiles are generally carried out in containers. Enhancing capacity to handle various types of cargo, including those which are containerised, in major ports is an ongoing exercise. Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) had witnessed congestion particularly during the months of September-October, 04, and representations were received from many quarters including Garments Export Association for faster clearance of the consignment. As a result of immediate steps taken by the port and others, congestion was eased out. However, to enhance container handling capacity at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT), the port is in the process of converting the bulk terminal as third container terminal. Licence Agreement for this purpose has already been signed with M/s Maersk-led Consortium.